

MIGRANT

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MAGAZINE



Kentucky Migrant Education Program

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A brief synopsis of the 2014 Fall Academy keynote speaker: Andres Lara

By Christina Benassi, ID&R Coordinator

The 2014 Kentucky Migrant Education Program (KYMED) Fall Academy's keynote speaker was Andres Lara, also known as "The Cuban Guy." Andres graduated with honors from Montclair State University with a major in Speech Communication and a minor in creative writing. He is the author of several international-selling books, including *Inspire the Sleeping Giant Within*, *How to Stay Motivated during Difficult Times*, and *The Finish Line*. He has appeared on various radio shows and has been featured in countless newspapers across the United States. Currently, he is chief executive officer of A Success Training, Inc. His message reaches millions around the globe every week through his website,

<http://www.TheCubanGuy.com>.

During his speech, Lara encouraged the migrant staff to reach out and help each migrant child, even when it may seem like their efforts are not making a difference. If students keep hearing the message that it is important to go to school and earn an education, one day it will click, he said. Often, Lara said, it isn't what people say, but how they say it. Lara urged advocates

to sell "education", and tell the students the benefits of educational opportunities and how it helps their future. Lara also called on migrant staff to take action, and provided them with a helpful acronym to

remember to do that: Get off your anatomy, or OYA. He held up a \$20 bill and asked how many people wanted it. Everyone raised their hands, but only a few people actually got up to reach for it, and only one person took the bill out of his hand. Lara also reminded migrant staff that they need to "act on small steps. He made this point clear when he asked

Michael Skuczas, a Harrison County recruiter, to rip an entire phone book. Of course this seemed impossible, but when he asked him to rip one page at a time, the difficult task seemed more doable.

April Harper saw Andres Lara in San Antonio at the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME) conference. She was really touched by his motivational speaking, and asked him to attend our fall academy. Thank you April Harper for making this happen.



Andres Lara

2014 Kentucky Migrant Education Program Fall Academy

By Judy Littleton, Migrant State Director

The 2014 Fall Academy, *Sowing the Seeds of Knowledge; Harvesting our Future*, is in the record books. The academy provided a time for learning, sharing and reflecting. The KYMED's Fall Academy is the most opportune time for this because it is the

largest gathering of Kentucky migrant staff and experts in the Commonwealth.

The overall objective of this year's academy was to address concerns and confusions around the KYMED Service Delivery Plan (SDP).

See Fall Academy on Page 2

The SDP is Kentucky's roadmap to address the identified needs of our migrant populations. The large group and the breakout sessions provided opportunities for professional learning as the SDP is implemented across district and regional programs.

The Fall Academy began on Thursday with a keynote speaker, Andres Lara, who was not only entertaining, but also inspiring. During lunch entertainment was provided by the Webster County Migrant Dance Team.

The Fall Academy reserved time for each region to meet to look and delve into the SDP. Each region was led by an expert in the KYMEP SDP.

The session took a deeper look into the SDP and how it directly impacts migrant programs. Feedback from the session was positive with participants saying they liked how it allowed for regions to discuss and work together on the SDP.

The breakout sessions provided a time for participants to

look at topics more closely related to the migrant population in their district or area. These topics range from preschool services to OSY services to administrative operations.

At the end of the first day, migrant staff had the opportunity to receive one-on-one assistance with their technology questions. In total, 168 migrant staff and migrant experts participated in the 2014 Fall Academy.

Overall feedback was positive; however, constructive suggestions were provided and will be considered as we begin planning for 2015.



Lindsay Henderson, Montgomery County Recruiter

Webster County dancers showcase Mexican culture

By: Christina Benassi, ID&R Coordinator

All attendees of the 2014 Migrant Fall Academy had the opportunity to witness wonderful entertainment from Webster County. Sherrill Tanner, Webster County's MEP recruiter/advocate, has been working after school with the migrant students and other students in Webster County to learn Mexican dances. The students benefit greatly from Sherrill Tanner, Kevin Ranes and Ali Frailey's direction as they have danced for the attendees at the academy and other venues, such as the Owensboro Community College Latino Fest, the Sebree Summerfest, retired teachers' meetings, nursing homes, local schools and Mexican fiestas.

The dance team has been performing for seven years. The dancers range in age from five to 11 years old. The girls wore authentic skirts made by Anjelica Vazquez and other parents. Vazquez, Yuliana Velazquez, Maria Sajche

and Gregoria Castro are parents who have all volunteered to work with the dance team.

The students danced three different types of dances from the Mexican culture during lunch. The students even asked for volunteers to come dance with them. KYMEP was honored to have them perform. The dancers did an awesome job!

Afterward, I had the opportunity to talk with a few of the

students to get their input on this experience. Apolonia is in sixth grade in Webster County. She is 11 years old, and has been dancing for three years. She really enjoys dancing. She is originally from Guatemala and says she enjoys learning about "different cultures," since many of the dances are from Mexico. Apolonia dances with her brother, Victor and sister, Alicia. This is Victor's first year dancing and Alicia's second year dancing. Another of Apolonia's many talents is drawing. Sherrill Tanner was very proud of Apolonia. When Apolonia was in second grade and living in Alabama, she entered an art contest for Heinz ketchup. She was the youngest winner in this national contest and won about \$3,000! Her picture can be seen on ketchup packets across the nation. She continues to draw, but hasn't entered any national contests lately.



This is the ketchup picture that Apolonia created as part of the Heinz ketchup contest.



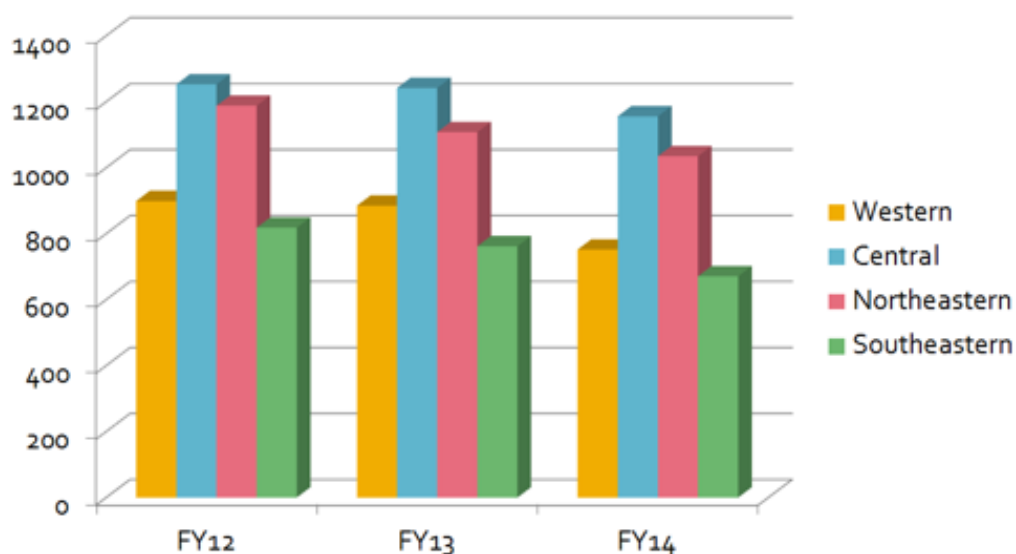
2014 Kentucky Migrant Education Program Fall Academy



1: Laura Puente, Northeastern Regional Recruiter and Lupi Ginn, trainer from ESCORT; 2: Michael Skucz as, recruiter from Harrison Co. with Andres Lara; 3: Lupi Ginn assisting Lucas Vilorio at the new recruiter session; 4: Karla Brasher, clerk for the Western Region with Kevin Ranes, recruiter and advocate from Webster Co.; 5: a member of the Webster Co. dancers; 6: Attendees participate in the ice-breaker at the new recruiter session, involving duct tape and walking as if they were skiing.

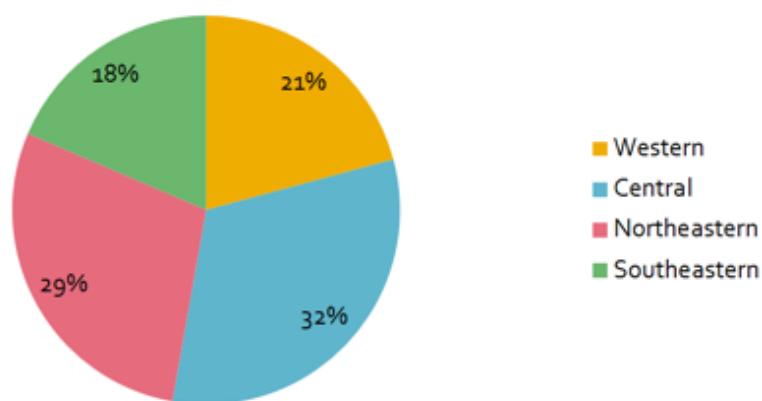
Migrant Numbers by Region as of

8/29/14 at 2:00-3:00EST/ FY14 9/15/14 12:00EST



Kentucky 9-1-13 to 9-1-14

Kentucky's Migrant Numbers FY14



These are slides from the Fall Academy showing migrant numbers at the time.

Become familiar with Migrant Guidance

[Migrant Guidance](#) is a very important document, and anyone working with migrant families and students should be familiar with it. Please review this document and let Christine Benassi know if you have any questions. She can be contacted at Christina.benassi@education.ky.gov or call (502) 564-3791 ext. 4025.

How do I document Continuation for Services (COS)?

By: Christina Benassi, ID&R Coordinator

Students may end their eligibility any time during the year. The time after the end of eligibility (EOE), if the district chooses to continue to serve the student, is called continuation for services (COS). Below is an excerpt from the non-regulatory guidance provided by the federal government:

Are there circumstances in which a local operating agency may continue to provide MEP services to children who are no longer eligible for the MEP?

Yes. The statute provides three circumstances in which a local operating agency may continue to provide services to children whose eligibility has ended:

- 1) A child's eligibility ends during the school term and the agency provides services for the duration of the term (see section 1304(e)(1));
- 2) A child's eligibility ends and the agency provides services for an additional school year because comparable services are not available through other programs (see section 1304(e)(2)); and
- 3) A local operating agency continues to serve secondary school students who were eligible for services in secondary school through credit accrual programs until they

graduate (see section 1304(e)(3)).

Kentucky currently does not have a "formal" process for informing the regions or state if a student is continuing to be served once EOE. The current protocol for COS is for the district to call or email their regional clerks and inform them the student has EOE and that the district will be continuing services for the duration of the term. Please review the three types of COS above. Remember if it is during the term, which means the time from September 1 to August 31. The district still receives funding for the student so the district may continue services during the term. The KYMEP is currently working on getting the COS students to appear on the web app so advocates can continue to add services for these students, but this is in production at this time.

Remember in order to be COS(2), a student **must** be Priority for Service (PFS) during the 2013-2014 school year if a district wished to continue services the following year. The district needs to add the student's name to the current enrollment that is provided to them at the beginning of the school year and mark the student as COS. The district will not receive any additional funding for this student. The clerks would then check the COS(2) checkbox on the school history panel. In order to be COS(3) a student must be enrolled in a credit accrual program and then complete the current enrollment report as COS(2). For questions on continuation of service, contact your regional center director.

Web app and "Other" funded services update

By: Christina Benassi, ID&R Coordinator

Thank you for all those participating with the web app. All have done a great job. I am working on a step-by-step handbook for newcomers that should be completed by summer 2015.

As you have questions please let me know so I can add information to the handbook. Something to keep in mind is that the web app will eventually

replace parts of the withdraw form. We also need to remember to note services that are not provided by migrant staff as well.

For example: if you work with a 21st Century afterschool care that provides the students with math and reading services then you should mark weekly that they are providing services. You

would need to leave the provider blank since migrant personnel did not provide services, but note the organization in the comments section, and note the funding as other.

If you referred the student to attend 21st Century afterschool program, you will need to note this as a referral as well.

Priority for Service (PFS) students: The need for cut scores and understanding personal identifiable information

By: Christina Benassi, ID&R Coordinator

It is that time of year again when we start sending documentation to the state to verify Priority for Service (PFS) students. In the month of November there were 11 districts with a total of 21 PFS students. Every district has done an excellent job providing documentation and assistance.

Currently the state is asking districts to send the "cut-scores" for their district assessments if possible. We currently have the "cut-scores" for 2013-2014, but require the updated "cut-scores" to verify the district assessments. Please talk to your districts to get this information for the state.

The Kentucky Department of Education is working harder to ensure that we do not breach any security issues by emailing personal identifiable information to others. I am as guilty of this as everyone. Please from now on when emailing information about a student, be sure to use the MIS2000, Kentucky generated number, or SSID from Infinite Campus. We cannot be sending emails with students' names. I am working on the best way to collect PFS data, but until then please do not send any personal information by email or fax. There will be more details concerning this issue.

Pulaski County students gain workplace skills through Instructional Access Training

By Mardi Montgomery, Pulaski County Schools' Director Next-Generation Programs

Pulaski County Migrant Education Program, through grant support, collaborated with Instructional Access, Inc. of Riverside, California, to provide a two-day Computer Camp for more than 22 migrant students in the Pulaski County School District. This intense, extended educational learning opportunity provided an all-inclusive computer learning experience, teaching viable skills to help close equity gaps for vulnerable youth. "Almost all workplace settings – no matter the size- use computer technology in some capacity. It is essential students have the opportunity to garner strong computer literacy in order to be competitive for academic or career success," said Mardi Montgomery, director of Pulaski County's Next-Generation Programs.



Input valuable for Fall Academy 2015 planning

By Heather Rhorer, Migrant Consultant

I want to thank each of you for attending the Migrant Fall Academy this year and for making it such a success! I believe that the attendees and presenters really make a conference memorable and I know that I will never forget Fall Academy 2014. We had some great local presenters and I hope that you all will continue to volunteer to share your ideas and practices.

I also want to thank you for sharing your ideas through our Survey Monkey evaluation. Fifty percent of the attendees took the time to provide us with valuable feedback on what they did and didn't like how we can make things better, and topics they would like to explore more in the future. We at KDE and the regional centers are reviewing the feedback and doing our best to make next year's academy

even more valuable and memorable. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, we are no longer able to have our conference at the Embassy Suites in Lexington. Since we want to move the conference back east next year, we started looking at other options in the area. After reviewing your feedback and meeting with hotels, we have decided to move our conference to the Clarion Hotel on Newtown Pike in Lexington. The conference will still be the third week in September and more details will be coming soon. The Clarion is a nice hotel, the meeting space is more centralized, it has a popular fun dome, and this move will allow us to provide you with some of the 'extras' that have been cut in recent years.

Please stay tuned for more details!

Service Delivery Plan (SDP) Training

By Heather Rhorer, Migrant Consultant

In October, a team made up of April Harper, Tom Hanley, Kirk Vandersall and I toured the state to follow up on the Service Delivery Plan (SDP) training migrant staff received at the Fall Academy.

Thank you to those who came and participated! Your questions, comments and ideas have helped shape the training itself and will guide the next Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) and SDP. I want to take a minute to reiterate a couple of key topics that were touched on during the training.

- The most important part about the CNA/SDP/Evaluation process is the service you provide to migrant students, out-of-school youth and families. The SDP is a road map to help you structure the services you will provide.
- Having accurate data is more important than numbers that make you look good. The regional offices and KYMEP look at the data to determine where we can better support you. If your numbers are not accurate, we

will not know what training is needed.

- The SDP data that you collect is used to make improvements to the MEP statewide but it should also be used locally. Using a data wall or other form to track progress of **all** students longitudinally will help you determine where to focus your energies. Looking at individual student data is helpful for determining services for that student while grouping student data will help you plan program services. If data merely goes from the district to the regional office to the state, we are doing migrant students a great disservice.

After your feedback is incorporated, you will receive an electronic copy of the data chart used during our training. Please email summer and first semester data to your regional director in December and second semester data in May.

For a copy of the handout, please email me at Heather.rhorer@education.ky.gov.

Important Dates to Remember

- NASDME in Seattle, Washington March 22-25.
- National Homeless Convention will be in Louisville in 2015
- ID&R Forum October 6-8, 2015, Galt House, Louisville